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United States Department of Agriculture,

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,

WM. A. TAYLOR, Chief of Bureau.

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SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT.

MARCH, 1922.

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THE ADULTERATION AND MISBRANDING OF THE SEEDS OF ORCHARD GRASS.

During the calendar year 1920 seed of orchard grass was procured in the open market in accordance with the following paragraph in the act of Congress making appropriations for the Department of Agriculture:

"Where such samples [seeds of grasses, clover, or alfalfa and lawn-grass seeds secured in the open market] are found to be adulterated or misbranded, the results of the tests shall be published, together with the names of the persons by whom the seeds were offered for sale."

In carrying out the provisions of this act, 371 mail samples and 420 purchased lots of seed in bulk were obtained.

These were examined in the Seed Laboratory of the Bureau of Plant Industry, and publication is here made of the results of the analyses of the samples found to be adulterated or misbranded, together with the names of the seedsmen by whom they were sold or offered for sale. (Table 1.)

Seed purchased from thirteen firms was found to be adulterated or misbranded, That from six firms contained practically no orchard-grass seed. That from four firms was a mixture of orchard-grass seed and the seed of rye-grass or meadow fescue, or both; and that from two firms was strikingly below the stated percentage of purity.

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TABLE 1.—*Results of tests of samples of seed obtained in the open market as orchard-grass seed and found to be adulterated or misbranded.*

Seed offered for sale or sold as orchard-grass seed by—		Seed obtained by—	Seeds and inert matter found upon analysis of samples.			
Name of dealer.	Address.		Orchard-grass seed.	Rye-grass, meadow fescue, or both.	Other seeds.	Dirt and chaff.
Adams Seed Co. ....	Decorah, Iowa.....	Purchase (bulk)	0.05	95.85	1.98	2.12
Alexander Seed Co. ....	911 Broad Street, Augusta, Ga. ....	do.....	0	0	a 89.51	10.49
American Seed Co. ....	311 East Trade Street, Charlotte, N. C. ....	do.....	.97	93.78	2.12	3.13
Dallas, A. ....	119 Grand Street, Waterbury, Conn. ....	do.....	.10	84.44	1.71	13.75
Haile & Sons, J. C. ....	33-35 Main Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. ....	Mail (sample) ..	46.52	40.22	.48	12.78
Do. ....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)	48.36	37.81	1.09	12.74
Huth Seed Co. ....	502-504 Market Street, San Antonio, Tex. ....	do.....	28.37	63.75	1.70	6.18
Kirby Seed Co. ....	Gaffney, S. C. ....	Mail (sample) ..	1.11	0	b 92.01	6.88
Do. ....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)	0	94.46	3.07	2.47
Martz Seed Co., E. W. ....	Grundy Center, Iowa.....	do.....	69.74	0	c 9.19	21.07
Radwaner Seed Co., I. L. ....	83 Water Street, New York, N. Y. ....	do.....	78.65	2.23	d 8.49	10.63
Schrage's Seed Store. ....	116 East Court Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. ....	do.....	62.06	10.37	3.77	23.80
Vogeler Seed & Produce Co. ....	58 West First South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. ....	Mail (sample) ..	27.96	61.17	1.84	9.03
Do. ....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)	25.80	65.67	1.49	7.04
Willet Seed Co., N. L. ....	849 Broad Street, Augusta, Ga. ....	do.....	75.48	0	e 8.55	15.97
Woodruff & Sons, S. D. ....	82-84 Dey Street, New York, N. Y. ....	Mail (sample) ..	0	96.97	f 2.15	.88
Do. ....	do.....	Purchase (bulk)	.09	96.90	1.39	1.62

<sup>a</sup> Bermuda grass, 89.26 per cent.<sup>b</sup> Tall meadow cat-grass, 90.65 per cent.<sup>c</sup> Smooth chess, 6.91 per cent.<sup>d</sup> Charlock and Indian mustard, 7.01 per cent.<sup>e</sup> Chess and smooth chess, 8.46 per cent.

The Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture will continue to examine and report promptly as to the presence of adulterants and dodder in any sample of seed submitted for that purpose. According to the location of the sender, these samples may be submitted to the Seed Laboratory at Washington, D. C., or to any of the following laboratories maintained through the cooperation of this department: Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, Mo.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Agricultural Experiment Station, College Station, Tex.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Oreg.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind.; Branch Seed-Testing Laboratory, California Department of Agriculture, Sacramento, Calif.

Approved:

HENRY C. WALLACE,  
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 11, 1922.